

GEORGE W. PALMER.

APRIL 28, 1898.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. LOUDENSLAGER, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 125.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 125)* granting an increase of pension to George W. Palmer, have considered the same and report:

The bill is accompanied by Senate Report No. 252, this session, and the following facts are quoted therefrom:

The War Department records show that the claimant, George W. Palmer, enlisted on the 21st day of April, 1847, at Auburn, N. Y., and was assigned to Company B, Tenth Regiment United States Infantry, for service in the Mexican war, and was mustered out on account of the expiration of term of service August 14, 1848, serving over sixteen months, much of which time was spent in Mexico during the war with that country.

The claimant was granted a pension of \$8 per month under the Mexican war service pension act of January 29, 1887, which was subsequently increased to \$12 per month under the act of January 5, 1893, on the ground that the claimant was wholly disabled for the performance of manual labor, and was in such destitute circumstances that \$8 per month was insufficient to supply him with the necessities of life.

It is shown by medical evidence on file in this case, including the report of the examining surgeon to the Pension Bureau, that the claimant has an immense right inguinal hernia, twice the size of a large navel orange, which protrudes through the external ring, and which can not be retained by any truss; also that he has general chronic rheumatism; that he is wholly incapacitated for manual labor, and that his disabilities are equivalent to the loss of a foot. It is also shown by competent evidence that the claimant has no property and no income of any kind except his pension.

The claimant is now about 70 years old. Your committee recommend the passage of the bill with an amendment striking out the word "twenty-four," in line 7, and substituting therefor the word "twenty," so as to fix the rating at \$20 per month.

